



Economic Overview And Outlook: Alaska

JOBS

- Across the country, the private sector gained jobs in each month of 2010.
- The President's Council of Economic Advisers estimates that investments made through the Recovery Act have boosted employment in Alaska by 7,000 jobs through the 2nd quarter of 2010.
- In Alaska, private sector employment fell by 0.1 percent from December 2007 to December 2009. In 2010, private sector employment contracted.
- In Alaska, employees in the construction, information services, and leisure and hospitality sectors faced the largest job losses (as a percent of employment within an industry) over the recession. In 2010, the following sectors in Alaska experienced the greatest employment increases: manufacturing; education and health services; and government.*
- As the economy recovers from the Great Recession, service-providing industries are projected to add the most jobs between 2008 and 2018, with the largest gains in professional and business services, education, health care and social assistance, and state and local government. Within the goods-producing sector of the economy, only the construction industry is projected to add jobs above its 2008 level.

EMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Alaska was 7.7 percent in August 2010, up 1.5 percentage points from December 2007, but down from its most recent peak of 8.6 percent reached in December 2009.
- 28,000 Alaska residents were counted among the unemployed in Alaska during August 2010.

EARNINGS

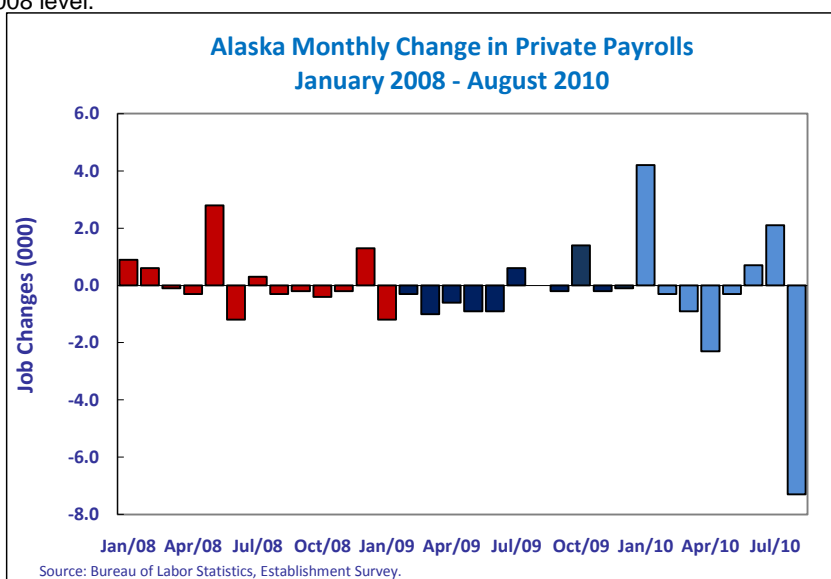
- Between the start of the recession in the 4th quarter of 2007 and the 1st quarter of 2009, inflation-adjusted total personal income in the United States declined 1.6 percent. Most recently, in the 2nd quarter of 2010, total personal income remained 0.9 percent below the 4th quarter 2007 peak.

- Real per capita personal income (in 2005 \$) in Alaska was \$39,747.60 in the 2nd quarter of 2010, down from \$40,607.90 in the 2nd quarter of 2008.

HOUSING

- National home prices, including distressed sales, were unchanged in July 2010 from July 2009 compared to 2.4 percent in June. In Alaska, home prices saw an increase of 0.1 percent in July 2010 from July 2009 following June's year over year increase of 0.7 percent.
- The median price of single-family homes in Alaska was \$251,100 in 2008, compared to \$250,000 nationwide.
- As of the 2nd quarter of 2010, 1.4 percent of all mortgages, including 3.7 percent of subprime mortgages, were in foreclosure in Alaska.
- Housing starts in Alaska totaled 960 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in July 2010, an increase of 2.1 percent from June.
- Within the West census region, which includes Alaska, sales of new single-family homes totaled 44,000 units in July 2010, a decrease of 25.4 percent from June. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased 25.5 percent to 790,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from June to July 2010.

* For Alaska-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Alaska office: <http://almis.labor.state.ak.us/>

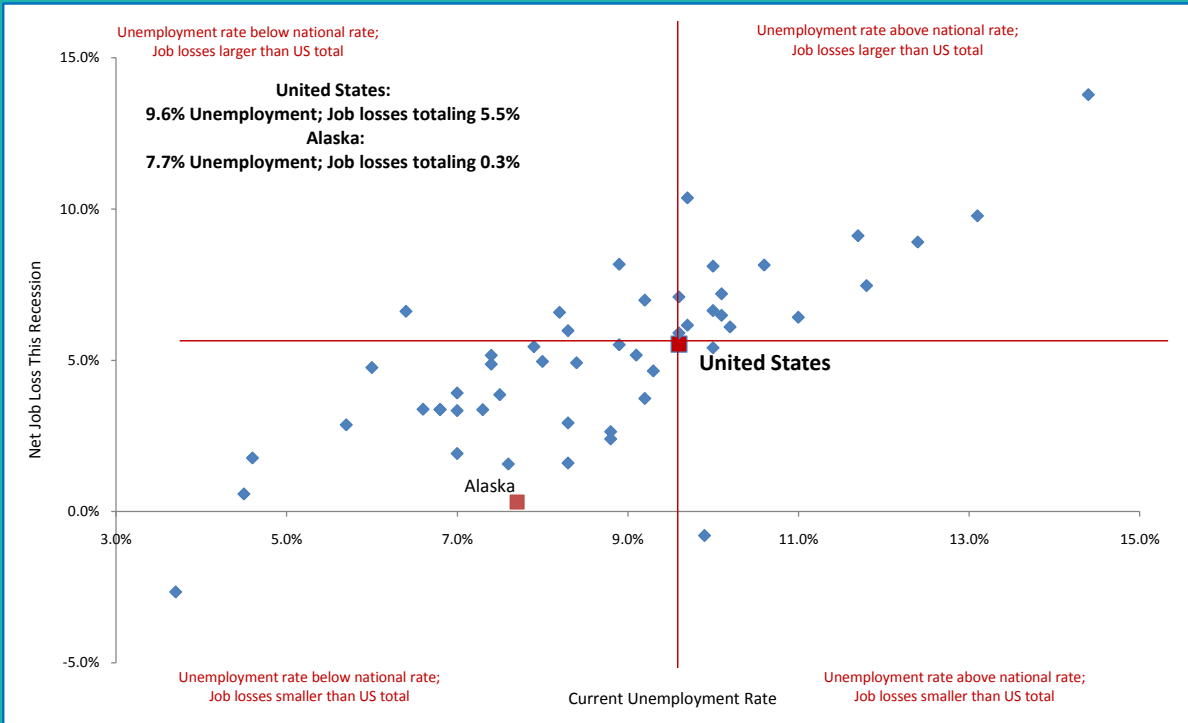


How Does Alaska Compare To Other States?

Workers across the country have been hard hit by the Great Recession. This chart allows you to compare Alaska to other states using two metrics.

The current unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor market conditions faced by residents, while the proportion of jobs lost within Alaska over the course of the recession (shown along the vertical axis) measures the toll the recession has taken on the job supply in Alaska.

States falling in the upper right quadrant have lost a disproportionate share of jobs, relative to the total United States, and have unemployment rates higher than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower left quadrant have unemployment rates lower than the national average and smaller job losses over the recession.



STATE QUICK FACTS

		Alaska	United States
Unemployment Rates	August 2008	6.6%	6.1%
	August 2009	8.2%	9.7%
	August 2010	7.7%	9.6%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2008	14.0%	9.8%
Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2009	7.4%	8.1%
Median Household Income	2007	\$ 65,165	\$ 51,965
	(2009 \$)	\$ 61,604	\$ 49,777
Poverty Rate	2007	7.6%	12.5%
	2009	11.7%	14.3%
No Health Insurance	2007	18.2%	15.3%
	2009	17.7%	16.7%